

In the Claims:

Cancel Claims 1-10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend Claim 24 to read as follows:

--24. A method of screening for therapeutic compounds effective in treating an inflammatory condition mediated at least in part by the  $\alpha_9\beta_1$  integrin, which method comprises:

adding a test compound to an assay system which measures an amount of alpha-9 integrin binding to an alpha-9 integrin ligand, and

selecting the test compound as an effective therapeutic drug candidate, if said compound exhibits, in said assay, a binding inhibitory activity that is at least 1/1000 as potent as an activity exhibited by a compound selected from the group consisting of:

D1 N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-L-prolyl-L-4(4-methylpiperzin-1-ylcarbonyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-L-prolyl-L-4(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(1-methylpyrazole-4-sulfonyl)-L-prolyl-L-4-(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-L-(1,1-dioxo-5,5-dimethyl)thiaprolyl-L-4-(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-N-methyl-L-alaninyl-L-4-(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-L-[1,1-dioxo]thiamorpholin-3-carbonyl-L-4-(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(N-*p*-toluenesulfonyl)prolyl-4-(piperazinoyloxy)phenylalanine,

N-(N-*p*-toluenesulfonyl)sarcosyl-4-(N,N-dimethylcarbamyloxy)phenylalanine, and

N-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-L-(5,5-dimethyl)thiaprolyl-L-4-[3-(N,N-dimethyl)-propoxy]phenylalanine.